

PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL
Regular Council Meeting
July 26, 2022

The Porter County Council met on Tuesday, July 26, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. in the County Administration Center, 155 Indiana-Suite 205, Valparaiso, Indiana.

Mr. Simms, We have a unique situation tonight. We have three of our members that are gone, including the President and Vice President. So...

Ms. Graham, I make a motion that Greg Simms be interim president for tonight.

Mr. Simms, Second?

Mr. Wagner, Second.

Mr. Simms, All in favor signify by saying Aye? All those opposed? Okay, all right I guess I've got the gavel.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Simms, All right Madame Auditor can you do roll call.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Members present were Council Member Mike Brickner, Council Member Sylvia Graham, Council Member Simms, Council Member Erik Wagner and Council Attorney Harold Harper. Also present was Auditor Vicki Urbanik, and Auditor Chief Deputy Toni Downing. Member(s) not present Council Member Jeremy Rivas, Council Member Andy Bozak, and Council Member Mike Jessen.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Four present.

Minutes

Approval of regular Council minutes for April 19th, 2022 and May 24th, 2022.

Mr. Simms, We have approval of the regular council minutes from June 28th, 2022.

Ms. Graham, Moved to approve.

Mr. Brickner, Second.

Mr. Wagner, Wait.

Mr. Simms, April 19th and May 24th, well I guess I made a mistake right off the bat. Approval of minutes from April 19th and May 24th and I said June 28th.

Ms. Graham, I'll amend my motion to the dates that you just mentioned.

Mr. Simms, Okay do we have a second?

Mr. Brickner, Second.

Mr. Simms, Okay all those in favor of approval of the minutes from April 19th and May 24th signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign?

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

First Reading

Mr. Simms, Okay now we can move on. The Auditor does first reading, okay first reading Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

NOTICE TO TAXPAYERS OF PROPOSED ADDITIONAL APPROPRIATIONS

Notice is hereby given the taxpayers of Porter County, Indiana, that the proper legal officers of Porter County, Indiana, will meet in the Porter County Government Administration Building located at 155 Indiana Avenue, Valparaiso Indiana 46383 on July 26th, 2022 at 5:30 p.m. to consider the following appropriation adjustments to the county budgets for the year 2022 and to transact any further business which might come before the Council:

General Fund

Coroner General Fund	1000-32100-000-0007	Consultants	\$	100,000.00
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Health Fund

Health Fund	1159-11100-000-0610	Salaries	\$	50,000.00
Health Fund	1159-12100-000-0610	FICA	\$	3,900.00
Health Fund	1159-12300-000-0610	PERF	\$	5,600.00
			\$	59,500.00

Local Roads and Streets Fund

Local Roads and Streets Fund	1169-22100-000-0530	Fuel	\$	200,000.00
Local Roads and Streets Fund	1169-24400-000-0530	Road Signs	\$	12,000.00
			\$	212,000.00

21.027 ARP Covid Fiscal Recovery Fund

ARP Covid Fiscal Recovery	8908-39940-000-0000	ARP Assistance	\$	10,640,625.00
ARP Covid Fiscal Recovery	8908-12200-000-0000	Medical/Life Insurance	\$	500,000.00
ARP Covid Fiscal Recovery	8908-39500-000-0000	Contractual Services	\$	7,618,188.00
ARP Covid Fiscal Recovery	8908-00000-000-0000	Capital Outlays	\$	340,571.00
			\$	19,099,384.00

Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund

Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund	XXXX-12200-000-0000	Medical/Life Insurance	\$	1,600.00
Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund	XXXX-23500-000-0000	Building Maint. Supplies	\$	4,000.00
Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund	XXXX-35200-000-0000	Water & Sewage	\$	2,000.00
			\$	7,600.00

Taxpayers appearing at such meeting shall have a right to be heard thereon. The appropriations adjustments as finally determined will be referred to the Indiana Department of Local Government Finance. Which will issue a written opinion as to the sufficiency of funds.

Vicki Urbanik
Auditor of Porter County

Publish July 14, 2022
Chesterton Tribune, and that concludes first reading.

Porter County Expo Center - Lori Daly

PC Expo Center Fund - 4005-000-9604
Transfer \$4,000 from 11200 Hourly to 22100 Gas, Fuel & Lubrication
\$6,000 from 11200 Hourly to 23300 Household & Bedding
\$3,000 from 11200 Hourly to 34200 Building/Liability/Comp

Reason: Transfers are needed for remainder of 2022 due to Gas, Supplies and Liability Insurance increases.

Mr. Simms, All right, first up we have the Expo Center. We've got the Transfer \$4,000 from 11200 Hourly to 22100 Gas, Fuel & Lubrication, \$6,000 from 11200 Hourly to 23300 Household & Bedding and \$3,000 from 11200 Hourly to 34200 Building/Liability/Comp. The reason is the transfers are needed for remainder of 2022 due to Gas, Supplies and Liability Insurance increases.

Ms. Graham, Motion to approve.

Mr. Brickner, Second

Mr. Simms, Hey shouldn't you be at the fair?

Expo Center Director Lori Daly, I'm done for the day.

Mr. Simms, Are you really...

Expo Center Director Lori Daly, I just came flying from there.

(Laughter)

Ms. Graham, How is it going?

Expo Center Director Lori Daly, It is going very well, I'm very happy the concerts are over. So, I am it was a long wait.

Mr. Simms, The party was interesting huh?

Expo Center Director Lori Daly, I didn't stick around.

Mr. Simms, Oh okay.

Expo Center Director Lori Daly, Uber was interesting.

Mr. Simms, Yeah that was that free one right?

Expo Center Director Lori Daly, Yeah.

Mr. Simms, Okay, it seems like everything is going well there.

Ms. Graham, You've got a motion and a second.

Mr. Simms, Okay, any other questions? All those in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign?

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Simms, Okay see you later.

Coroner – Cyndi Dykes

Coroner General Fund - 1000-000-0007

Additional \$90,000 to 31200 Consultants. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover Pathologist Autopsy Fees from October 2022 – January 2023.

Additional \$10,000 to Consultants. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover Hospital Morgue/Lab fees associated with each autopsy for the remainder of the year.

Transfer \$800 from 44400 Furniture/Fixtures to 36300 Equipment Other Than Vehicles. Reason: Transfer needed for the service and repair of Mortuary cots (last serviced in 2018).

Transfer \$130 from 44400 Furniture/Fixtures to 32200 Telephone/Internet Services.
Reason: Transfer needed to cover Cell Phone expenses through the end of the year.

Mr. Simms, Next up is the Coroner. We have additional, \$90,000 to 31200 Consultants. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover Pathologist Autopsy Fees from October 2022 – January 2023.

Additional \$10,000 to Consultants. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover Hospital Morgue/Lab fees associated with each autopsy for the remainder of the year.

Ms. Graham, Let's do the first two additional please.

Mr. Simms, Okay, so you just want to...

Ms. Graham, I would like to make a motion to table the additional for this evening.

Mr. Simms, Okay this is to table the additional for the Coroner?

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Mr. Brickner, I'll second that.

Mr. Simms, We have a second. Discussion? No? All those in favor of Tabling?

Ms. Graham, Well here's...

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Tabling what?

Ms. Graham, Here's my reason.

Mr. Simms, The ~~transfers~~...sorry the additional.

Ms. Graham, And the reason is we don't have the full council. In my opinion, we do not have the full council here tonight and I feel these are big ticket items. I think that the public deserves to have everybody present with this additional. There's questions that they might like to ask, but they are not here. That is the reason why.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Okay what questions do you have?

Ms. Graham, Regarding your transfers?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, No regarding the additional appropriations.

Mr. Simms, Additional.

Ms. Graham, What questions do I have?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Yeah.

Ms. Graham, Well I have...first of all, I have questions about why are we adding an additional \$100,000 dollars to the consultant? Is this the same as your...the same person that you are going to be spending the money for the \$90,000 dollars? Is this the same one as the \$10,000 dollars request?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, No the \$10,000 dollars is for the hospital fees that we have to pay for each autopsy.

Ms. Graham, Okay.

Mr. Simms, For the morgues?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, And what happens is...what we were charged in the beginning of 2022 overlapped 2020/2021. So that took out some of the money that we

had. So the way the hospital...the way the hospital bills us, is some of those autopsies were from 2021.

Ms. Graham, Okay.

Mr. Simms, Okay.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, We had to pay it.

Mr. Simms, Okay, I think some of the concern though, was without the other three members...because you are asking for what seems to be some confusion about that there's a contract signed and now there's more money that is...

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, It's not a contract, it's a MOU (Memorandum Of Understanding)

Ms. Graham, Memorandum of Understanding.

Mr. Simms, Either way the other three might have some questions, so it shouldn't hurt us if we wait another month right? So if we wait for the other three to come back and see if they have some questions. Right?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Well if I don't have any choice, I guess not.

Mr. Simms, Yeah, because we have a motion and a second, so I'm going to honor that. We'll complete the vote, all those in favor...we should we do a roll call vote on this?

Council Attorney Harold Harper, Either way is fine, but probably a roll call would be better.

Mr. Simms, Okay. Madame Auditor could we have a roll call vote? The motion was to table the additional until the next meeting, when we have the other members present.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Brickner	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Wagner	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 4 – 0

Mr. Simms, So the motion carries, so we will table the additional until the next meeting.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Okay.

Mr. Simms, Okay, transfer \$800 from 44400 Furniture/Fixtures to 36300 Equipment Other Than Vehicles. Reason: Transfer needed for the service and repair of Mortuary cots they were last serviced in 2018.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Yes

Mr. Simms, Mortuary cots?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, That's what we use to remove bodies from homes.

Ms. Graham, I will make the motion to approve.

Mr. Simms, Okay do we have a second?

Council Attorney Harold Harper, Greg is that on both transfers or just...

Mr. Simms, Just the one. Just the one so far.

Council Attorney Harold Harper, Okay.

Mr. Brickner, Second.

Mr. Simms, Okay any discussion on that? Okay, all those in favor of approving the transfer for the cots signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign?

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Simms, Okay the motion carries. The next one is a transfer \$130 from 44400 Furniture/Fixtures to 32200 Telephone/Internet Services. The transfer is needed to cover Cell Phone expenses through the end of the year.

Mr. Brickner, I make a motion.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Simms, Okay we have a motion and a second for that transfer. Discussion? All those in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign? Okay motion carries.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, So just a comment that I have. So I'm supposed to tell my pathologist just to hold tight?

Ms. Graham, Actually...

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, And not be able to pay him?

Ms. Graham, We're not saying you are not going to be able to pay him. That will be on the agenda for next month, that's all. It will be (inaudible) paid.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Okay.

Ms. Graham, He will get his money. It's just that in all fairness for the full council to be able to be here for this pretty sizable amount of money, that was my feeling on it.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, But that's what I have to pay him for the autopsies.

Ms. Graham, We're not saying that we are not going to pay him, it's just that we are going to table it right now, that's all.

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Okay.

Mr. Simms, Okay?

Coroner Cyndi Dykes, Yep.

Mr. Simms, All right.

Portage Township Assessor – Alta Neri

Portage Township Assessor General Fund - 1000-000-0013
Transfer \$1,950 from 39500 Contractual Services to 31300 Training and Education.
Reason: Transfer needed for the Indiana Assessor Association Summer Conference Registration fees.

Reassessment Fund - 1188-000-0013

Transfer \$4,425 from 39500 Contractual Services to 32100 Travel. Reason: Transfer needed to cover Hotel, Food, Parking, and Mileage Expenses for the Indiana Assessor Association Summer Conference in Indianapolis.

Mr. Simms, Next up is the Portage Township Assessor. All right we have a transfer \$1,950 from 39500 Contractual Services to 31300 Training and Education. Reason: Transfer needed for the Indiana Assessor Association Summer Conference Registration fees. Whew, that's a lot.

Ms. Graham, I have some questions on this?

Mr. Simms, Okay.

Ms. Graham, Alta, could you please tell me how many employees does this cover?

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, The whole office.

Ms. Graham, And how many is that?

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, Six employees.

Ms. Graham, Six?

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, Yeah because we need to go there to get our Continuing Ed credits. For the last couple of years we've been able to do it online, but the State hasn't produced any classes this year and we are kind of running out of time. I need to have some, and there some that need credits, like right now.

Ms. Graham, Okay, I'll make the motion for that first transfer.

Mr. Simms, Okay.

Mr. Brickner, Second.

Mr. Simms, Okay second, right and any further discussion? All those in favor of moving the transfer, please signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign? Okay.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Mr. Simms, Okay transfer number two from the Reassessment Fund for \$4,425 from 39500 Contractual Services to 32100 Travel. The transfer needed to cover Hotel, Food, Parking, and Mileage Expenses for the Indiana Assessor Association Summer Conference in Indianapolis.

Mr. Brickner, I'll make a motion.

Mr. Simms, Okay we have a motion, do we have a second?

Ms. Graham, I'll second that motion, I'd like to ask another question.

Mr. Simms, Okay.

Ms. Graham, What is that for, what did you say it's for six people?

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, Yes, but that's on the high side, you know on the high end because some of ride together. So I had to get...I don't know if that's going to happen at the time. You know so like, I might ride with another employee.

Ms. Graham, Another employee?

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, Right, I just do it on the high end just in case we all drive separately.

Mr. Simms, And you're all covered.

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, Yeah.

Mr. Simms, Sylvia do you have any more questions?

Ms. Graham, What hotel are you staying at?

(Laughter)

Mr. Simms, Okay...

Ms. Graham, I want to make sure that I don't stay there. You can call the vote.

(Laughter)

Mr. Simms, Okay, no further questions? All those in favor of the transfer, please signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign? Okay.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, Thank you.

Mr. Simms, Take care, have fun at the conference.

Portage Township Assessor Alta Neri, Thanks.

Parks and Recreation – Park Superintendent Jake McEvoy

Parks Operating Fund - 1000-000-0803

Form 144 \$68,500 Parks Superintendent

\$41,927 to \$50,000 Assist Superintendent (Office Coordinator)

Reason: No additional needed for 2022. Hired Jake McEvoy as New Parks Superintendent & moved Interim Superintendent to Assistant Superintendent formally Office Coordinator. New Job Description & Title Change for Assist Superintendent

Mr. Simms, All right Parks and Recreation, we are going to meet a new Superintendent.

Ms. Graham, Welcome.

Mr. Simms, Do you want to introduce him first?

Park Board President Craig Kenworthy, Yes this is Jake McEvoy.

Mr. Simms, Hello again.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jake McEvoy, Hello

Park Board President Craig Kenworthy, Please reach out and meet him, I think you'll find him to be a very interesting, very qualified young man, we are very happy to have him on board.

Mr. Simms, Where did you come from?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jake McEvoy, Originally Indiana Dunes State Park.

Mr. Simms, Oh.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jake McEvoy, I was there as the Assistant Manager. Previous to that I was the Assistant Manager at Turkey Run and Shades State Park, and previous to that I spent a couple seasonal years at Ouabache State Park.

Mr. Simms, Okay, but you're more local just recently up here?

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jake McEvoy, Yes.

Mr. Simms, Okay good. Any other questions? All good? All right, well we've got a Form 144 \$59,474 to \$68,500 Parks Superintendent, \$41,927 to \$50,000 Assist Superintendent (Office Coordinator). The reason is no additional needed for 2022. Hired Jake McEvoy as New Parks Superintendent & moved Interim Superintendent Jackie to Assistant Superintendent formally Office Coordinator. New Job Description & Title Change for Assist Superintendent. Do we have a motion?

Mr. Brickner, Motion.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Simms, All right discussion?

Ms. Graham, My comment on this is...I don't think this is out of line at all to pay for a Superintendent and an Assistant Superintendent of the office is here in the building. We will be coming up with a wage study soon, but for right now this seems more than adequate. Thank you for coming.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jake McEvoy, I'm excited to be here.

Parks Board Attorney David Hollenbeck, You can't believe how thankful we are.

Mr. Simms, It's been almost a year hasn't it?

Park Board President Craig Kenworthy, Fourteen months.

Mr. Simms, Fourteen months? Wow, and Jackie is comfortable with her new role?

Park Board President Craig Kenworthy, I believe so.

Mr. Simms, Oh is she in here?

Ms. Graham, Yes.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jake McEvoy, I've got half the Park Board sitting here.

Mr. Simms, Oh okay

Park Board Attorney David Hollenbeck, The answer is yes.

(Laughter)

Mr. Simms, Okay

Park Board President Craig Kenworthy, (Inaudible)

Mr. Simms, All right, well we have a motion and a second, all those in favor...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Well it's a Form 144 and we always do roll...

Mr. Simms, Roll call, okay.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Because we're changing the salary ordinance.

Mr. Simms, Sounds good.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Okay

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Ms. Graham - Yes
Mr. Simms - Yes
Mr. Wagner - Yes
Mr. Brickner - Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 4 – 0

Park Board President Craig Kenworthy, Thank you.

Mr. Simms, Thanks a lot for coming.

Parks and Recreation Superintendent Jake McEvoy, Appreciate it.

Park Board President Craig Kenworthy, Please take time and meet this young man.

Park Board Attorney David Hollenbeck, Thank you.

Mr. Simms, You're welcome.

Ms. Graham, Thank you.

Mr. Simms, Okay

Ms. Graham, Good job.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, And a point of clarification, I believe that salary will take effect with Mr. McEvoy's hiring date, does that change in the salary for the Assistant Superintendent take effect at the same time?

Ms. Graham, I would say yes.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Okay.

Mr. Simms, Okay.

Tourism – Director Lorelei Weimer

PCCRVC Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund - XXXX-000-0000

Additional \$1,600 to 12200 Medical Life Insurance. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover the increase to include employer contribution to employee HSA (Health Savings Account)

Additional \$4,000 to 23500 Building Maintenance Supplies. Reason: Appropriation needed due to the increase in supply costs.

Additional \$2,000 to 35200 Water & Sewage. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover the rising costs and increase at the Visitor Center.

Mr. Simms, Tourism

Ms. Graham, Hi Lorelei.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Hello.

Mr. Simms, Okay we have some additionals here \$1,600 to Medical Life Insurance. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover the increase to include employer contribution to employee HSA (Health Savings Account). And then we have an additional \$4,000 to 23500 Building Maintenance Supplies. Appropriation needed due to the increase in supply costs. And then we have another additional \$2,000 to 35200 Water & Sewage. Appropriation needed to cover the rising costs and increase at the Visitor Center.

Ms. Graham, I'll make the motion.

Mr. Brickner, On all the three of them?

Mr. Simms, All three?

Ms. Graham, Yes on all three.

Mr. Brickner, Second.

Mr. Simms, Okay any discussion?

Ms. Graham, How is it going this year out there?

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, It's going great, we've increased visitation, we continue to increase visitation at the Visitor Center and just today...just to give you an idea, right before I went to lunch I drove through the parking lot just to see who was in our parking lot. Just to give you a perspective of where people are coming from, we had Indiana of course, Kentucky, Utah, Louisiana, Tennessee, Florida, North Carolina, Maryland, Illinois, New York, Minnesota, Vermont, Wisconsin, Ohio, and Michigan, and that was just when I went out at lunch.

Ms. Graham, Wow.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, That's happening all the time every day. I can drive in one day, I drove in and there's three different vehicles and not together from California. I mean it's just amazing, because of the National Park.

Ms. Graham, I think you just ran off about what...eight (8) or nine (9) states there.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, No, it's twelve (12).

Ms. Graham, Twelve (12).

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, That was twelve (12) states and that was just at lunchtime. Several of them that were coming from...I mean there were several from New York, several from Minnesota that were not from the same party. So this gives you an indication of what we have sitting in Porter County and the asset that Porter County has.

Mr. Simms, How are your bikes going?

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, They are going well, so far we've done \$6,000 dollars worth of business. So you remember this is our first year to be in the bike business.

Mr. Simms, Yes.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, So it's a learning curve. We have a penny smasher that has already brought in \$2,000 dollars.

Mr. Simms, Just from a penny...how much does it cost to smash a penny? Like a quarter?

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Fifty cents.

Mr. Simms, Fifty cents?

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Fifty cents, I mean so it just gives you an idea...we got the penny smasher in September, and we're halfway through the year and we're over...it's actually over \$2,000 dollars. So it just gives you an indication of what's going on at the Visitor Center and then if you guys remember last week we just kicked off...we had a huge ceremony with both the Miami Tribe of Oklahoma, and the Pokagon Band of the Potawatomi tribe. We will be flying both of their flags at the Visitor Center and that's a huge deal to get that permission, and we did a land

acknowledgement with the National Park and the two tribes. So that all took place last week for the indigenous cultural trail that will take place at the Visitor Center and the land surrounding the Visitor Center, which is National Park property. So there is a lot that is happening at the Visitor Center.

Mr. Simms, So will those flags be more of a permanent fixture or is it just temporary?

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Well, so we have to get the flagpoles and each flagpole is \$25,000 dollars. So yeah per flagpole, so once those flagpoles are purchased and put in they will fly permanently outside.

Mr. Simms, Wow that's amazing.

Ms. Graham, Sounds great.

Mr. Simms, Yeah.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Found the cause?

(Faulty microphone removed because of static and hissing)

Mr. Wagner, She said no.

Mr. Simms, Your magnetism must be setting it off...no that cool that's a lot of awesome stuff there.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Yes.

Mr. Simms, I know I was there last week and there was a lot of people walking around. So that's encouraging to see all that energy coming back, and people coming back and traveling coming back.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Yeah.

Mr. Simms, And Hotels and all that stuff, their numbers are increasing and everything too, the occupancies?

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Absolutely, we do need, any developers out there, we need unique lodging.

Mr. Simms, Unique lodging?

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Unique lodging. So my buddy to the east of me is getting more of the hotel traffic, because of the unique lodging and the Airbnb's, and the vacation homes and the condo's on the water. So if you want to do an investment, I would invest in unique lodging.

Ms. Graham, Well thank you.

Mr. Simms, Okay it sounds good, well thanks for coming by we appreciate it.

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Thank you.

Mr. Simms, All right thanks.

Mr. Wagner, Do we vote?

Mr. Simms, Oh my goodness, we got into a conversation and didn't vote. They are never going to give me the gavel again.

(Laughter)

Mr. Simms, Okay we have a motion and a second on the three transfers, all those in favor please signify by saying Aye...

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, No, these are additional.

Mr. Simms, Do you want to do a roll call?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes so we need a roll call.

Mr. Simms, Oh...I'm never going to get this again.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Okay

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Wagner	-	Yes
Mr. Brickner	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 4 – 0

Tourism Director Lorelei Weimer, Thank you Greg.

Mr. Simms, Thanks Lorelei.

Highway – Superintendent Jim Polarek

Local Roads and Streets Fund - 1169-000-0530

Additional \$200,000 to 22100 Fuel. Reason: Appropriation needed to cover the rising cost of fuel prices.

Additional \$12,000 to 24400 Road Signs. Reason: Appropriation needed to purchase materials to mark Rail Road Crossings. (Will receive State Grant upon completion).

Transfer \$80,000 from 22610 Salt to 36500 Vehicle Repair
\$10,000 from 22610 Salt to 23100 Tires and Tubes (etc.)

Reason: Transfer needed due to increased costs.

Mr. Simms, All right Highway Department.

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, Good evening.

Ms. Graham, Good evening

Mr. Simms, How is it going Jim?

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, Good.

Mr. Simms, All right we've got additional, \$200,000 to 22100 Fuel. Appropriation needed to cover the rising cost of fuel prices. We've got another additional \$12,000 to 24400 Road Signs. The appropriation needed to purchase materials to mark Rail Road Crossings. They'll receive State Grant upon completion. And then another two transfers \$80,000 from 22610 Salt to 36500 Vehicle Repair. And then \$10,000 from 22610 Salt to 23100 Tires and Tubes etcetera. The reason is transfer needed due to increased costs. And that is that, so do we have a motion?

Ms. Graham, I'll make a motion to approve.

Mr. Simms, Both additional? Or the additional and transfers? Or do you want to separate...

Ms. Graham, All three.

Mr. Simms, All three, okay do we have a second?

Mr. Brickner, Jim are these additional going to get you through the end of the year?

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, Yes.

Mr. Brickner, Okay.

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, Unless fuel prices go higher.

Mr. Simms, But I think they are going down thankfully.

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, Now we estimated it was going to cost us about \$160,000 dollars. We put a little extra there, but obviously if we don't use it goes right back to where it came from.

Mr. Brickner, This is as best as you can guess, probably to the end of the year. Okay good, I second it.

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, And our salt domes are full, so we've got plenty of salt to get us through to the first of the year.

Ms. Graham, I hope you don't have to use it.

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, Me too.

(Laughter)

Mr. Simms, Absolutely. Okay any other discussion? Madame Auditor roll call again.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik,

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Wagner	-	Yes
Mr. Brickner	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 4 – 0

Mr. Simms, All right thanks Jim.

Ms. Graham, Thank you.

Highway Superintendent Jim Polarek, Have a good night.

Health Department – Director Sheila Paul

Health Fund - 1159-000-0610

Additional \$50,000 to 11100 Salaries
\$3,900 to 12100 FICA
\$5,600 to 12300 PERF

Reason: Supplemental pay for Health Department Staff for COVID 19 Pandemic.

Form 144 \$0 to \$50,000 Supplement Pay
Reason \$3,000 x 7 = \$21,000 (Nurses and Dr. Stamp)
\$3,000 x 5 = \$15,000 (Covid POD Mgrs & HD Mgrs)
\$2,000 x 4 = \$8,000 (Foods, Environmental & New Nurses)
\$1,000 x 6 = \$6,000 (Clerical and Vital Records)
Total Amount = \$50,000

Reason: Supplemental pay for Health Department Staff for COVID 19 Pandemic.

Mr. Simms, All right Health Department, if I am correct on this...Health Department.

Ms. Graham, Before we go through reading and everything I would like to...well go ahead and read the request.

Mr. Simms, Okay. All right they're asking for Additional \$50,000 to 11100 Salaries; \$3,900 to 12100 FICA and \$5,600 to 12300 PERF. The reason supplemental pay for Health Department Staff for COVID 19 Pandemic.

And then we've got Form 144 \$0 to \$50,000 Supplement Pay. The reason is supplemental pay for Health Department Staff for COVID 19 Pandemic.

Ms. Graham, I would like to recommend we table this until we have the full Council of us, because of the amount of money that's involved.

Mr. Simms, Okay so your motion is to table this until the next meeting next month.

Ms. Graham, Right.

Mr. Brickner, Second.

Mr. Simms, We have a second. Do we need a roll call on this Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Well you did on the Coroner.

Mr. Simms, The other one, so let's do a roll call.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Okay.

Motion carried on the following roll call vote:

Mr. Brickner	-	Yes
Ms. Graham	-	Yes
Mr. Simms	-	Yes
Mr. Wagner	-	Yes

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, 4 - 0 to table.

Mr. Simms, Okay so we'll address this again next month.

Health Department Director Sheila Paul, Thanks for your consideration.

Mr. Simms, Sorry.

Ms. Graham, Hang in there.

Mr. Simms, Hopefully you heard the other one and kind of anticipated.

Health Department Dr. Maria Stamp, We'll see you next month.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik

21.027 ARP Covid Fiscal Recovery Fund - 8908-000-0000

Transfer \$1,830 from 11100 Salaries to 11200 Hourly. Reason: Transfer needed for hourly compensation to prepare meeting minutes for ARPA Steering Committee and Sub-Committees.

Auditor Ineligible Homestead Fund - 1216-000-0002

Transfer \$800 from 11200 Hourly to 44400 Furniture/Fixtures Over \$100. Reason: To replace old and torn office chairs for Auditor Office.

Mr. Simms, Okay Auditor Vicki Urbanik.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Okay

Mr. Simms, Requesting a transfer of \$1,830 from 11100 Salaries to 11200 Hourly. Transfer needed for hourly compensation to prepare meeting minutes for ARPA Steering Committee and Sub-Committees. And then we've got another transfer of transfer \$800 from 11200 Hourly to 44400 Furniture/Fixtures Over \$100. The reason is to replace old and torn office chairs for Auditor Office.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Mr. Brickner, I make a motion.

Ms. Graham, Second.

Mr. Simms, We have a motion and a second. Discussion? No discussion?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Just briefly to explain it, the first transfer...when you appropriated the salary amount for the premium pay the appropriation ended up higher than what we needed, so we have some leftover in that appropriation. So I'm just suggesting transferring it over to hourly, so that we could pay the individual who prepared all of the meeting minutes for the numerous Sub-Committee and Steering Committees meetings that we just concluded.

And then the second one is coming out of the Ineligible Homestead fund, also known as the Auditor Non-Reverting fund. This is to cover the additional costs for the new chairs that we are receiving because most of our office chairs were, quite frankly falling apart.

Mr. Simms, Makes sense. Okay any other questions?

Ms. Graham, You've got a motion already.

Mr. Simms, Alright, so we can verbally do this or should we roll call this one too?

Council Attorney Harold Harper, You don't have to.

Mr. Simms, No?

Council Attorney Harold Harper, No.

Mr. Simms, Okay, all right ? All those in favor of the transfer, please signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign? Okay motion carries.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Second Reading

Mr. Simms, All right Madame Auditor we have second reading.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes

Whereas it has been determined that it is now necessary to appropriate more money than what was appropriated in the annual budget. Therefore be it resolved by the Porter County Council of Porter County Indiana that for the expenses of the taxing unit the following additional sums of money are hereby appropriated out of the funds named and for the purposes specified subject to the laws governing the same

General Fund - Tabled			
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Coroner General Fund	1000-32100-000-0007	Consultants	\$ 100,000.00
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Health Fund - Tabled	
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Health Fund	1159-11100-000-0610 Salaries	\$	50,000.00
Health Fund	1159-12100-000-0610 FICA	\$	3,900.00
Health Fund	1159-12300-000-0610 PERF	\$	5,600.00
			\$ 59,500.00

Local Roads and Streets Fund	
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Local Roads and Streets Fund	1169-22100-000-0530 Fuel	\$	200,000.00
Local Roads and Streets Fund	1169-24400-000-0530 Road Signs	\$	12,000.00
			\$ 212,000.00

Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund	
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Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund	XXXX-12200-000-0000 Medical/Life Insurance	\$	1,600.00
Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund	XXXX-23500-000-0000 Building Maint. Supplies	\$	4,000.00
Indiana Dunes Tourism Fund	XXXX-35200-000-0000 Water & Sewage	\$	2,000.00
			\$ 7,600.00

And that concludes second reading.

Mr. Simms, All right there you have it, I'll entertain a motion to approve?

Ms. Graham, Motion to approve second reading.

Mr. Wagner, Second.

Mr. Simms, Motion and a second for the approval of Second Reading, any discussion? All those in favor please signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign? Okay motion carries.

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

Any other matter that may come properly before the Council

Mr. Simms, That concludes our stuff, is there anyone, we can open it up to public comments. Is there anyone that would like to say anything about what was said or what was brought up in tonight's meeting?

Ms. Graham, Any comments?

Mr. Simms, No?

Ms. Graham, I would. I would like to say not publicly...

(Laughter)

Ms. Graham, But I will, say that I'm very sorry, I felt as if there were some things on the agenda that needed the attention of the full council. That's why I made the recommendation to table some of these. I'm sorry, but with only four us here I didn't feel it was fair.

Mr. Simms, Yes you're the elder statesman, I mean you've experienced more of these than anybody else. So I'm glad to see your input...absolutely appropriate. Yeah okay, nothing else? Madame Auditor?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, I just want to give a reminder that at the August meeting you are required by State Statute to do your annual review of estimated tax cap losses and maximum levies. And that is what I tend to view as kicking off the budget season. So we will, as we've done before we will have the report where we summarize all of the important state information, rather than make you go through the state report. We'll summarize it for you and by that time we should have a pretty good idea about the Levy increases that would affect the Levy controlled funds like the General Fund, the

Health Department Fund, CCD, Cumulative Bridge and Reassessment Fund, and I think that's it...yes. So that's...

Ms. Graham, Thank you.

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yeah and the ones that you have tabled tonight are all Levy controlled funds.

Ms. Graham, And you just got through attending a NACo?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes.

Ms. Graham, Is there anything you'd like to say about that?

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, Yes this year we became a member of the National Association of Counties. It's my understanding that Porter County was a member years ago, and then we no longer were members, and so I went to the conference this year. The conference dues itself was waived, because we're new members, and it was a very informative session. Lots of good information, there was lots of discussion about the American Rescue Plan Act. Lots of discussion about how counties are using their ARPA dollars. Other discussion topics included the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill, the Opioid Settlement which you'll probably be hearing a lot about. Coming up there's a very neat program, one that I'm very excited about called Operation Greenlight. It's a NACo sponsored program that's going to pay recognition to our Veterans and the challenges that they face in accessing benefits. And there is probably a lot more that I can talk about, but I wasn't prepared to talk about this.

(Laughter)

Auditor Vicki Urbanik, It was a very, very good session and one of the interesting things that delegates from all of the states in Indiana had a contingent of people going there. We got to vote on national policy resolutions and platform changes. This will guide NACo as they lobby Congress in the coming year. And I'm very thrilled that the two proposals that I submitted were both approved.

Mr. Simms, Wow.

Ms. Graham, Thank you Vicki, you represent Porter County very well.

Mr. Simms, Absolutely, anything else?

Attorney's Report

Mr. Simms, Attorney's report?

Council Attorney Harold Harper, Nothing to report tonight.

Meeting Adjourned

Ms. Graham, Motion to adjourn.

Mr. Simms, Is there a second?

Mr. Wagner, Second.

Mr. Simms, Okay, all in favor signify by saying Aye? Opposed same sign?

Motion carries on a unanimous voice vote.

There being no further business, meeting was adjourned.

**PORTER COUNTY COUNCIL
PORTER COUNTY, INDIANA**

Jeremy Rivas

Mike Jessen

Sylvia Graham

Erik Wagner

Greg Simms

Andy Bozak

Mike Brickner

Attest: _____
Vicki Urbanik, Auditor